

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2017

Introduced by Assembly Member Atkins

February 23, 2012

An act to amend Section 6359 of the Labor Code, relating to labor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2017, as introduced, Atkins. Young workers: resource network.

Existing law requires the Department of Industrial Relations to contract with a coordinator to establish a statewide young worker health and safety resource network. The primary function of the resource network is to assist in increasing the ability of young workers and their communities statewide to identify and address workplace hazards in order to prevent young workers from becoming injured or ill on the job. The resource network is required to coordinate and augment existing outreach and education efforts and provide technical assistance, educational materials and other support to schools, job training programs, employers and other organizations working to educate pupils and their communities about workplace health and safety and child labor law. Existing law provides that the above-described provisions shall be implemented subject to an appropriation for those purposes in the 2000–01 Budget Act.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to the above-described provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 6359 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

6359. (a) The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(1) Every year 70 adolescents die from work injuries in the United States and 200,000 are injured, 70,000 seriously enough to require hospital treatment. Most of these injuries are preventable.

(2) A recent report by the Institute of Medicine and the National Research Council has brought national attention to the need for better education and interventions to aid injury and illness prevention efforts aimed at young workers.

(3) Since 1996, the California Study Group on Young Workers' Health and Safety, consisting of 30 representatives from key agencies and organizations involved with California youth employment and education issues, including representatives from government agencies, business, labor, parent and teacher organizations, and others, has met to develop recommendations to better protect and educate California's young workers.

(4) The study group recommended the establishment of a Resource Network on Young Workers' Health and Safety, to assist in increasing the ability of young workers and their communities to identify and address workplace hazards in order to prevent young workers from becoming injured or ill on the job.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Industrial Relations, the University of California, the State Department of Education, the State Department of *Public Health Services*, and the Employment Development Department cooperatively and individually conduct activities aimed at the prevention of occupational injuries and illnesses among young workers.

(c) The Department of Industrial Relations shall contract with a coordinator to establish a statewide young worker health and safety resource network. The primary function of the resource network shall be to assist in increasing the ability of young workers and their communities statewide to identify and address workplace hazards in order to prevent young workers from becoming injured or ill on the job. The network shall coordinate and augment existing outreach and education efforts and provide technical assistance, education materials and other support to schools, job training

1 programs, employers and other organizations working to educate
2 students and their communities about workplace health and safety
3 and child labor laws.

4 (d) The resource network shall provide, and the lead center shall
5 coordinate, services to all key groups throughout the state involved
6 in education and protecting young workers, including, but not
7 limited to:

8 (1) Teachers.

9 (2) Schools.

10 (3) Job training programs.

11 (4) Employers of youth.

12 (5) Parent groups.

13 (6) Youth organizations.

14 (7) Work permit issuers.

15 (e) The resource network shall be advised by a statewide
16 advisory group, including, but not limited to, representatives from
17 the Department of Industrial Relations, the Commission on Health
18 and Safety and Worker's Compensation, the University of
19 California, the State Department of Education, the Department of
20 ~~Public Health Services~~, and the Employment Development
21 Department, as well as business, labor, parents, and others
22 experienced in working with youth doing agricultural and
23 nonagricultural work. The advisory group shall represent diverse
24 geographic regions of the state.

25 (f) This section shall be implemented subject to the availability
26 of funding for the purposes of this section in the 2000–01 Budget
27 Act (*Chapter 52 of the Statutes of 2000*).